WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. In a method of presenting educational lessons on a display, the improvement comprising:

a) making an assessment of the educational standing of a person

5   utilizing the display;

b) selecting a list of lessons available;

c) based on the assessment, identifying lessons available to the person and displaying corresponding icons on the display; and

d) accepting selection of an icon from the person, and presenting the

10   chosen lesson.

2. Method according to claim 1, wherein the educational standing is measured by number, type, or both number and type, of lessons completed.

15   3. Method according to claim 1, wherein the educational standing is sometimes measured by reference to the path taken by the student through materials available for examination.

4. Method according to claim 1, wherein the step of presenting a

20   lesson comprises transmitting information over a network.

5. Method according to claim 4, wherein the network comprises a public-access, packet-switched network.

6. Method according to claim 1, wherein some courses on the list are
5   not represented by icons.

7. Method according to claim 1, wherein some courses on the list are represented by icons, but selection of such icons causes no display of a corresponding lesson.

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8. A system, comprising:

a) a computer system, which includes presentation means for presenting audio-visual information to students;

b) multiple, different courses, stored in the computer system, each
15   comprising a collection of lessons;

c) for each student in a group, a student data model, which contains information describing the student's educational status;

d) for each course, a course structure file, which indicates

i) which lessons in the course can be taken by the student without
20   restriction, and

ii) which lessons require prerequisite courses be taken first;

e) framework software means which

i) identifies a student,

ii) examines (1) that student's data model and (2) the course structure, and,

iii) based on the examination, makes a determination of options to

5 display to the student, and

iv) displays the options.

9. System according to claim 8, and further comprising means for accepting a choice of an option, and presenting

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10. A method, comprising:

a) identifying a person viewing a display;

b) presenting, on the display, a collection of icons, each of which causes a lesson to be presented when actuated; and

15 c) evaluating whether the person has attained predetermined prerequisites and, if so, presenting additional icons on the display.

11. Method according to claim 10, and further comprising:

d) removing selected icons from the collection of icons, if the person

20 has attained the predetermined prerequisites.

12. A method, comprising:

a) presenting icons on a display;

b) detecting actuation of an icon and, in response, presenting educational lessons on the display;

5   c) ascertaining whether a student of the lessons has reached a predetermined level of education and, if so,

i) presenting additional icons on the display; and

ii) removing other icons from the display.

10   13. A system, comprising:

a) means for presenting icons on a display;

b) means for detecting selection of an icon and, in response, presenting educational lessons on the display;

c) means for ascertaining whether a student of the lessons has

15   reached a predetermined level of education and, if so,

i) presenting additional icons on the display; and

ii) removing other icons from the display.

14. A system, comprising:

20   a) storage means for storing educational lessons, in computer-readable format, each lesson comprising at least one sequence of video frames;

b) server means, having access to the storage means;

c) first software means, running on the server means, for transferring

a data packet to a remote computer,

i) said data packet containing a set of lesson-icons, each of which, when

5   actuated, delivers signals to the server means, causing the server means to

retrieve a respective lesson from the storage means, and transmit the lesson

to the remote computer, and

ii) said first software means utilizing a public-access, packet-switched

network to transfer the packet;

10   d) second software means, running on the server means, for

determining whether a person participating in a lesson at the remote

computer has achieved a predetermined educational background and, if so,

transferring additional lesson-icons, which induce transfer of additional

lessons.

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15. System according to claim 14, and further comprising

e) a plurality of remote computers, each of which is operated by a

different student, and

f) a plurality of displays, one associated with each respective remote

20   computer,

i) each display of which presents a collection of icons representing courses

available to the respective student, and

ii) the content of each collection is determined by the first software means, or the second software means, or both.

16. Method according to claim 1, and further comprising the steps of

5　(1) detecting the arrival of predetermined periods in time and (2) during said periods, refraining from making lessons available to the display.

17. Method according to claim 10, and further comprising the steps of (1) detecting the arrival of predetermined periods in time and (2) during

10　said periods, refraining from making lessons available to the display.

18. Method according to claim 12, and further comprising the steps of (1) detecting the arrival of predetermined periods in time and (2) during said periods, refraining from making lessons available to the display.